IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for processing a packet exceeding a predetermined size received from a physical layer by a MAC (Medium Access Control) layer of an Ethernet to be transmitted to a switch, the method comprising the steps of:

receiving a packet from the physical layer and transmitting the packet to a switch;

detecting for an error while transmitting the packet;

upon detection of the error, stopping the transmission of the ~~error~~ packet in which the error is detected to the switch without waiting for a complete reception of the entire ~~error~~ packet in which the error is detected; and

transmitting a signal indicating an occurrence of the error and a signal indicating an end of the packet to the switch.

2. (Currently Amended) A method for processing a packet exceeding a predetermined size received from a physical layer by a MAC layer of an Ethernet, wherein the received packet is stored in a memory for an eventual transmission to a switch, the method comprising the steps of:

receiving a packet from the physical layer, storing the received packet in the memory, and transmitting the received packet to the switch;

detecting for error while receiving the packet;

upon detection of the error, stopping the storage of the ~~error~~ packet in which the

error is detected in the memory and the transmission of the ~~error~~ packet in which the error is detected to the switch without waiting for a complete reception of the ~~error~~ packet in which the error is detected; and,

transmitting a signal indicating an occurrence of the error and a signal indicating an end of the received packet to the switch.

3. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in Claim 2, wherein the method further comprising the step of preparing to receive a next packet from the physical layer after receiving the ~~error~~ packet in which the error is detected.

4. (Original) The method as claimed in Claim 2, wherein said memory comprises a FIFO (First-In, First-Out) memory.

5. (Canceled)

6. (Canceled)